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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:

KAZUAKI TASHIRO ET AL.

Application No.: 09/899,184

Filed: July 6, 2001

For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS

Examiner: Timothy J. Moran

Group Art Unit: 2878

May 15, 2003

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 15, 2003.

(Date of Deposit)

Justin D. Petruzzelli

(Name)

Signature

May 15, 2003

Date of Signature

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03 FC:1251

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